



SIGNAL online

Archives

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*In honour of the Civic Holiday, the SOLS office will be closed on Monday, August 7, 2006.
The SOLS delivery routes will not operate on Monday, August 7, 2006.*

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1. ANNUAL SURVEY UPDATE

The deadline for the **Annual Survey** submission for municipal, county and union libraries was March 31, 2006, while the deadline for First Nation libraries was **June 30, 2006**. The Ministry has been working on the processing of the surveys received. A small number of the surveys from March 31st have now been approved. Unfortunately, there are also 71 surveys for which the Ministry requires further clarification or correction of an error. Over the next few weeks, SOLS consultant, Hélène Golden, will be contacting each of these libraries to provide further information and instructions on the required changes or corrections.

2. COOL E-AUDIO BOOKS

a) Audiobooks from Overdrive -

On Monday, July 14, 2006, almost 20 library representatives gathered (or teleconferenced) at the SOLS office for a presentation and discussion on the viability of establishing a shared audiobooks collection from OverDrive. SOLS hosted the event which consisted of a web based presentation and demo from the vendor in the morning and a Questions and Answers session, followed by a discussion of project timelines and library interest in the afternoon with some libraries attending via teleconference. The combination of web-based presentation and teleconference worked flawlessly and allowed those who could not come to Toronto to fully participate in the event. One of the key items discussed was each library's ability to participate during this fiscal year. SOLS will be investigating how other shared audiobooks collections work in order to then formulate Terms of Reference and cost sharing formula for those Ontario public libraries wishing to participate. The group intends to meet again in September.

Digital Library Reserve® from OverDrive is a web-based, digital media service that allows library patrons to download popular digital audio books, eBooks, music, and video from your library's web site. DLR delivers the best technology and the best selection. For general information about OverDrive, see <http://www.dlrrc.com/Resources/WhatsIncluded.pdf>.

For information regarding the OverDrive initiative, please contact Barbara Franchetto at 1-800-387-5769 ext. 5104 or bfranchetto@sols.org. General information on the Overdrive initiative is posted in the COOL section of the SOLS website at <http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/coolcpa/cooldata/product.aspx?prod=83>

b) Audiobooks from NetLibrary

Through the COOL initiative, SOLS is also working on audiobooks from OCLC NetLibrary. In this service, eAudiobooks offers seven collections: a **Children and Young Adult Collection**, with Newberry and Caldecott winners, a **Core Collection**, featuring the latest best sellers, book club favorites and award-winning authors, a renowned **language-learning series** collection, the *most authentic* unabridged **Holy Bible** ever produced, literary classics with **eAudioEssentials**, a **Popular Fiction Collection**, and a **K-12 Schools Collection**.

General information on the NetLibrary Audiobook initiative is posted in the COOL section of the SOLS website at <http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/coolcpa/cooldata/product.aspx?prod=80>

3. COOL - NETLIBRARY EBOOK COLLECTION – new interface released on July 31, 2006

There are more than 150 Ontario public libraries who have registered to participate in the NetLibrary shared E-book collection. As one looks at various library websites, quite a number of libraries have created links to the e-book collection or have incorporated this e-book collection into their library catalogue information. On Monday, July 31, 2006, NetLibrary will be introducing a new version, NetLibrary 4.0. NetLibrary 4.0 is a major site upgrade that will provide improved search performance, a fresh new look and feel, and powerful new navigation tools. To help you prepare for the introduction of NetLibrary 4.0, NetLibrary has developed a new online demo at <http://www.oclc.org/netlibrary/demo/>. They have also written a series of new Quick Start Guides. These are tri-fold brochures that are intended to answer many basic questions, such as how to create an account and login, how to search for eContent, and how to view or listen to eContent. You can find the new guides at <http://www.netlibrary.com/Librarian/ToolsAndResources/QuickStarts.aspx>

4. SHIPPING INTERLIBRARY LOAN ITEMS USING CANADA POST'S LIBRARY BOOK RATE *Last day for old system is Friday, September 29, 2006*

Most interlibrary loan items in southern Ontario are shipped via the SOLS courier van system. In fact, in 2005, 472,461 pieces were moved through the SOLS van system. However, there are about 50 public libraries in southern Ontario that are not regularly served by the SOLS courier system. These libraries use Canada Post to send and receive interlibrary loan materials. If a library wishes to ship an interloan book to one of these libraries, to public libraries in northern Ontario or to non-public libraries, then the Canada Post Library Book Rate system is used.

To send books through Canada Post, library staff should now be using Canada Post's online Library Books Shipping Tool (LBST). To use LBST, you must first register with the Canadian Library Association. Effective May 1, 2006, the online shipping tool could be used to print both bar-coded shipping labels and pre-paid return labels. If you happen to have an existing stock of pre-paid return labels, they will be acceptable only until September 30, 2006. After this date, all labels must be produced by a shipping tool that generates bar-coded Library Books labels.

For registration and usage information, please refer to the SOLS website at <http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/INFO/policies/postage/index.htm>.

5. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of valuable links to "Funding Development Resources" that can be found at <http://www.sols.org/links/clearinghouse/fundingdev/index.htm#Grants>. The following grant continues to be of interest to libraries in Ontario.

a) Ontario Trillium Foundation –Next deadline is November 1, 2006

Public libraries became eligible for the OTF **community program** two years ago. Applications for grants for **municipal libraries** serving small communities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the municipality. Applications for grants for **county libraries** serving small municipalities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the County Library Board. Applications for grants for **First Nation libraries** must be submitted through the First Nation's Band Council. A copy of the application process is posted on the Foundation's website at <http://www.trilliumfoundation.org/OTF-English/new/index.htm>. There is also a link to the Trillium website from the main SOLS page at www.sols.org. The remaining deadlines for the 2006 round of applications is November 1st – at 5:00 pm on the deadline date. Those applications received for the March 1, 2006 deadline will be announced to the public at the beginning of August and the successful library projects will also be posted in the next issue of *Signal*.

b) Library Strategic Development Fund (LSDF) – Deadline is October 2, 2006

The Ministry of Culture's 2006/07 Library Strategic Development Fund (LSDF) program is a mechanism through which the public library community can achieve its goals and complement and support provincial government key priorities. These government priorities are better student achievement, healthier Ontarians in a healthier Ontario, better workers for better jobs in an innovative economy, safe and vital communities that offer Ontarians a higher quality of life, and more active citizens contributing to a stronger democracy. Applicants must address a minimum of one of these government priorities in their applications.

From the guidelines, examples of eligible projects and projects likely to be funded will be strategic province-wide initiatives and projects that benefit or serve as models for the provincial library system as a whole. Projects must involve partnerships. Projects can address one or more of the following priorities, including:

- New technical support services for the broader public library sector;
- Research initiatives on key issues that impact the public library sector(s), e.g. public library capital, human resources needs, economic and social impact of the public library sector;
- Increased capacity to address emerging issues within the public library community;
- Innovative projects to improve access to, or use of, the public library system;
- New standards, guidelines, templates or best practices that could be adopted to benefit the public library system;
- Partnerships that develop and implement new products or services;
- Digital collections, digital centres of expertise, and new and innovative digital services.

Applicants are required to complete the LSDF application form that is posted on the Ministry website at <http://www.culture.gov.on.ca/english/culdiv/library/lsdf.htm>. The backgrounder and guidelines are also posted at that site. Program guidelines, application forms and a cover bulletin were distributed to public libraries in July 2006. The deadline for the 2006/07 LSDF grants is Monday October 2, 2006.

6. LITERACY INFORMATION UPDATE

In response to queries and requests from libraries around the Ministry's \$6 million initiative to "boost literacy and learning" in rural, remote, francophone and First Nations public libraries, SOLS will be providing a spectrum of ideas to help libraries focus on providing literacy services and materials. Areas of interest include Literacy and Numeracy, Lifelong Learning and Love of Reading and Family Literacy. This Ideas document is posted in the "Literacy resources" section of the Joint OLS-N/SOLS Clearinghouse at <http://www.sols.org/links/clearinghouse/literacy/index.htm>.

a) Early literacy training

For those interested in early literacy, you may be interested in a workshop that is being organized by SOLS staff for October 4th in London and October 5th in Brampton. Called **The Fun and Facts of Early Literacy: Communicating with Parents through Storytime**, this workshop is based on The Every Child Ready to Read @ your library® program, an early literacy initiative from the Public Library Association and Association of Library Service to Children of the American Library Association. This full-day workshop includes early literacy research, examples of the

development of each of the six early literacy skills for newborn to five-year-olds, techniques for planning storytimes that reach adults and children, and specific ideas for doing so. Saroj Ghoting is the workshop leader for this session. She is co-author of **Early Literacy Storytimes @ your library: Partnering with Caregivers for Success** published by ALA Editions in 2005. This book applies the information from the Every Child Ready to Read @ your library workshops to the storytime setting. Further information on the registration can be found in the "Training" workshop section of this issue of Signal or on the SOLS training web page at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/clinicworkshops/index.htm>

b) Adult literacy information

On July 31, 2006, additional information on adult literacy will be added to the "Ideas" document. This will incorporate further information from the "National Summit on Libraries and Literacy: Moving Forward", which was held on June 14th, as well as information from the AlphaPlus organization.

7. CLUB AMICK

Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS) is pleased to be part of the fourth phase of the Ontario Lieutenant Governor's Aboriginal Literacy initiatives. Club Amick is a book club for children in Ontario's remote First Nation communities. Each club member will receive a children's book and an activities-oriented newsletter several times per year. The goal is for young Native children to create their own home libraries. The program will build on the Lieutenant Governor's Aboriginal Summer Literacy Camps, which promote the joy of reading.

SOLS and Ontario Library Service – North will collaborate in coordinating all aspects of the program, including implementing the selection and distribution of books, as well as the production of a child-friendly newsletter. The program will run for five years, starting in the fall of 2006, and begins with a distribution of books to children in kindergarten to grade five.

Donations may be made to Club Amick through SOLS' website at www.sols.org. There is a link on the main SOLS page for donations. Receipts will be issued for cheques over \$25.00.

8. SOLS TRAINING WORKSHOPS – Registration opens Tuesday, August 8, 2006

In Fall 2006, SOLS will, once again, be providing a wide variety of workshop topics. We hope that there's something this fall for everyone, and that you will find this selection interesting and relevant. Complete information about each of the workshops is posted in the "Training" section of the SOLS website at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/clinicworkshops/index.htm>. A copy of the workshop information, in print form, was distributed to every library site in southern Ontario. Workshop registration opens on Tuesday, August 8, 2006. The Fall 2006 workshops will be as follows:

Workshop 1- Developing and implementing a marketing plan

The Marketing Plan workshop offers an overview of the Marketing Plan process, and insights for creating a custom plan for your library. This workshop will provide a toolkit for you to use and offers hands-on exercises and insights to help you make the most of your marketing strategies. Our presenter for this workshop is Karen Thistle from Ontario Library Service – North.

The dates and locations for Workshop #1 will be:

Uxbridge Public Library -Tuesday, September 26, 2006 from 10am to 1pm
County of Brant Public Library – Paris – Wednesday, September 27, 2006 from 10am to 1pm
Gravenhurst Public Library – Thursday, September 28, 2006 from 10am to 1pm

Workshop 2 - The Fun and Facts of Early Literacy: Communicating with Parents through Storytime

This workshop is based on The Every Child Ready to Read @ your library® program, an early literacy initiative from the Public Library Association and Association of Library Service to Children of the American Library Association. This full-day workshop includes early literacy research, examples of the development of each of the six early literacy skills for newborn to five-year-olds, techniques for planning storytimes that reach adults and children, and specific ideas for doing so. Saroj Ghoting is the workshop leader for this session. She is co-author of **Early Literacy Storytimes @ your library: Partnering with Caregivers for Success** published by ALA Editions in 2005. This book applies the information from the Every Child Ready to Read @ your library workshops to the storytime setting.

The dates and locations for Workshop #2 will be:

London Public Library, Masonville branch – Wednesday, October 4, 2006 from 9:30am to 4:30pm
 Brampton Public Library, Four Corners branch – Thursday, October 5, 2006 from 9:30am to 4:30pm

Workshop 3 - Innovative Programming for Toddlers, Preschoolers and Families - Spotlight on YOU: Storyteller, Entertainer, Facilitator

This workshop will explore ways to turn storytime visitors into life-long library users with hands-on activities and interactive examples. Beginning with babies, it will explore how you can choose appropriate books and activities, and also explore family programming and techniques for appealing to all participants, from toddler to grandparent. Finally, the workshop will explore strategies for developing your personal programming style in ways that are traditional and/or innovative through storytelling, puppets, at-home reading incentives, crafts and activities. The presenter, Beth Maddigan, is the Children's Services Coordinator for the Cambridge Libraries. Beth is also the author of *The Big Book of Reading, Rhyming, and Resources: Programs for children: ages 4-8*

The dates and locations for Workshop #3 will be:

Ottawa Public Library, Stittsville branch – Friday, October 13, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm
 Port Hope Public Library, Mary Benson branch – Friday, October 20, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm
 Orangeville Public Library, Main branch – Wednesday, October 25, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm
 London Public Library, Westmount branch – Friday, October 27, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm
 St. Catharines Public Library, Central – Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm

Workshop 4 - Reader's Advisory on Romance

This is a reader's advisory and collection development workshop on Romance Fiction, presented by the always popular Sharron Smith, the Manager of Readers Advisory Services at the Kitchener Public Library

The dates and locations for Workshop #4 will be:

Ottawa Public Library, Stittsville branch – Friday, November 3, 2006 from 10am to 1pm
 London Public Library, Masonville branch – Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 10am to 1pm
 Barrie Public Library – Friday, November 17, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
 Burlington Public Library, Central – Monday, November 20, 2006 from 10am to 1pm

Workshop 5 - Effective Volunteer Recruitment and Retention: Find them and Keep them!

This half-day workshop will explore the recent trends in volunteering in Canada and will take a look at who volunteers and why, so positions and programs can be developed that will attract the right volunteers. The workshop will look at effective recruitment strategies and offer ideas on management systems and supervision for your program. The presenter for the workshop is Rob Lavery. Rob is the Resource Development Consultant at SOLS and has taught many workshops on fundraising topics.

The dates and locations for Workshop #5 will be:

Arnprior Public Library – Monday, November 6, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm
 Belleville Public Library – Tuesday, November 7, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm
 Barrie Public Library – Wednesday, November 8, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
 Stratford Public Library – Monday, November 13, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
 Lincoln Public Library, Vineland branch – Tuesday, November 14, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm

Workshop 6 - Internet Safety and the Library

The London Public Library has launched an Internet Awareness Project (IAP) and the team's mission is "to develop and implement an integrated strategy and plan to educate key target audiences about media and internet safety" London staff would like to share the results of this project with the public library community in a workshop environment. The presenters will be Brian Rhoden, Literacy Coordinator at London Public Library, Anya Hleba, Youth Services Librarian, and Lisa Manax Skikos, the E Communications officer at LPL.

This workshop will be held at the Central Library of London Public Library on Thursday, November 23, 2006 from 10am to 4pm.

Workshop 7 - AccessABILITY 101: Delivering Top-Notch Services and Supports to Patrons with Disabilities

This interactive half-day workshop will examine the implications of *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* (AODA) for your service delivery. Further information about AODA is explained later in this issue of *Signal*. Our presenter, Michelle Penta, M.A., M.L.I.S., is the Hamilton Public Library's Adult Services Librarian for Diverse Communities.

The dates and locations for Workshop #7 will be:

Hamilton Public Library, Central Library – Thursday, October 26, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
Aurora Public Library – Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
Belleville Public Library – Thursday, November 16, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm

Workshop 8 – French Graphic Novels/ Bande Dessinée (NEW, not included in print handout)

In the morning half of this full-day workshop, Olivier Charbonneau of Concordia University, will present, in English, about french language graphic novels, or bande dessinée, which have greatly evolved in the past few years. The number of published works, as well as sales, have confirmed the robust popularity of the "9th art". This presentation aims to introduce the world of 'bande dessinée' and propose strategies to develop meaningful collections. In the afternoon, participants will be given a presentation and exhibit of bande dessinée by a Montreal book vendor.

The dates and locations for Workshop #8 will be:

Toronto Public Library, Fairview branch – Thursday, November 30, 2006 from 10am to 3pm
London Public Library, Westmount branch – Friday, December 1, 2006 from 10am to 3pm

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9. EXCEL REGISTRATION – Registration deadline - Tuesday, September 5, 2006

EXCEL is a unique training program in managing a small public library or a community branch library that has been supported by the Ontario Library Service for more than 14 years. Over 540 people have completed the program.

The EXCEL program is specifically designed for public library staff or volunteers who have little or no formal library training. You can either take the entire program of 10 courses, or complete individual courses that might interest you. Once registered, you would receive course material and work with a tutor via telephone or e-mail on the material. The cost per course is \$145 plus GST. EXCEL is offered in both English and French.

This fall, the following courses will be offered in English:

- #1 - Introduction to Public Libraries
- #2 - Basic Library Management
- #3 - Supervision
- #4 - Information Services
- #6 - Basic Collection Development
- #10 - Acquisitions and Serials
- #13 - Circulation (revised)
- #14 - Non-book materials
- #16 - Professional Development (web-based)

The following courses will be offered in French:

- #1 - Introduction aux bibliothèques publiques
- #4 - Services de référence et d'information (2006) - révisé
- #8 - Développement des collections pour jeunes adultes (2005)
- #17 - Ressources électroniques d'information (2006) (en ligne)

The registration forms were posted in the EXCEL section of the SOLS website on Monday, July 3, 2006. The registration deadline is **Tuesday, September 5, 2006**. The course material will be shipped to students beginning on Tuesday, September 12, 2006, with the semester commencing the week of September 25, 2006.

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10. TD SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2006 – Evaluation forms due by September 29th

In order to measure the impact of the TD Summer Reading Club 2006 – *Quest for Heroes!*, TD Bank Financial Group and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) **require** that all participating libraries fill out the "Statistics and Evaluation Form" between August 25 and September 29, 2006. Again this year, Decima Research will manage the data collection on their dedicated and secure server.

On **August 25, 2006**, each participating library will receive an e-mail invitation from Decima Research with a URL address that is unique to the individual library system.

To complete the statistics and evaluation forms, each participating library should check the information that is required on the forms for the child registration and the actual evaluation that are in the *Staff Manual*. Electronic copies of the

forms are also posted on the official website for the program at <http://www.td-club-td.ca/2006/009003-06-510-e.html> - look under "Forms and templates". Those 2 forms are available in both Word and PDF, so that branches/other sites can complete the information, as well.

In October, Decima Research will analyze the data. SOLS will receive a copy of the national report, which will also include an appendix on SOLS' statistics. Only the national report will be made available on the TDSRC website. You can view the *National Report of 2005 Program Statistics- Executive Summary/ Key Findings* at the following link: <http://www.td-club-td.ca/2006/009003-06-540-e.html>

11. ACCESSIBILITY UPDATE

There is some confusion around the present requirements for accessibility. In March 2006, the Ontario Community Support Association held a forum in several locations across Ontario called "Building Momentum for an Accessible Ontario". This one-day forum was held to introduce the new provincial legislation, **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005** or **AODA** and provided the background information for this section. **AODA** falls under the Ministry of Community and Social Services, with specific responsibility falling to the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario (ADO). ADO was established under the **Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA)** and continues under **AODA**. There is a very comprehensive website, with background information on the legislation, as well as definitions, that has been posted at <http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/mcsc/english/pillars/accessibilityOntario/>

AODA became law on June 13, 2005, with the following purpose:

- To achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities by developing, implementing and enforcing accessibility standards respecting goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures and premises **on or before January 1, 2025**
- To provide for the involvement of persons with disabilities, of the Government of Ontario and of representatives of industries and of various sections of the economy in the development of the accessibility standards

The new legislation will have a province-wide impact

- Mandatory accessibility **standards** for public, broader public and private sectors in all key areas of daily living
- First time in Canada that the private sector will be fully covered by accessibility standards
- Sets out a process for developing, implementing and enforcing clear and measurable accessibility standards with timelines for compliance
- Standards will set out measures for identifying, removing and preventing barriers
- AODA has compliance and enforcement provisions in the form of inspections, orders and penalties.
- AODA provides for the repeal of the **ODA** once the standards are in place
- Includes an Accessibility Standards Advisory Council consisting of members appointed by the Minister for up to a three-year renewable term, with a majority of members being people with disabilities.

By definition, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 states:

"(6) An accessibility standard shall, (a) set out measures, policies, practices or other requirements for the identification and removal of barriers with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures, premises or such other things as may be prescribed, and for the prevention of the erection of such barriers; and (b) require the persons or organizations named or described in the standard to implement those measures, policies, practices or other requirements within the time periods specified in the standard."

Under the **AODA**, standards set out the rules that will help make Ontario more accessible. Proposed accessibility standards are to be developed by **Standards Development Committees (SDCs)**. The SDCs are not agencies of the government but will be made up of members of the community, business, the broader public sector, such as school boards, Ontario government ministries, people with disabilities and representatives of people with disabilities.

Under **AODA**, four areas of **common** standards will be developed. These are customer service, the 'built' environment, including access to, from and within buildings and outdoor spaces; employment, including employment practices, policies and processes, such as job advertisements and interviewing; and information & communications, such as publications, software applications and websites. In addition, **sector-specific** standards will be developed to address accessibility requirements that may be unique to a particular sector and not covered by the common standards in areas such as transportation.

In Fall 2005, members were selected for the **Transportation** and **Customer Service** SDCs. The library community is represented on the Customer Service SDC by Cynthia Archer, from York University. Those two SDCs started meeting in February 2006 and are expected to submit their proposed standards to the Ministry in the Fall of 2006. On June 13, 2006, the Ministry announced that three new SDCs would be working on the development of accessibility standards to target barriers in **information and communications**, the **built environment**, and **employment** for people with disabilities.

A notice will be posted on the Ministry website when proposed accessibility standards are ready for public review and comment. Following the public comment period, the Minister will decide what proposed standards will be recommended to become a regulation. Once adopted by regulation under the **AODA**, these standards will provide rules, guidelines or procedures for activities related to the accessibility of goods and services for all Ontarians.

While the government is moving forward to implement the new legislation, and while the standards are being developed under **AODA**, the government and parts of the broader public sector will continue to have obligations under **ODA**. Under the **ODA**, Ontario government ministries, municipalities, hospitals, school boards, colleges, universities and public transportation organizations are required to develop annual accessibility plans to make policies, practices, programs, services and buildings more accessible to people with disabilities. While there is no specific requirement for public libraries to develop an annual accessibility plan, some Ontario public libraries have worked on an annual accessibility plan through their municipalities.

One of the key points to the **AODA** is that the date of 2025 is an end point, not a starting point. While the actual accessibility standards are being developed over the next five years up to the point of 2025, there are many barriers which can be removed or prevented right away. There are many changes that organizations can make easily to help remove barriers for people with disabilities – simple things such as installing ramps or providing publications in large print.

For this reason, SOLS has planned a workshop this fall called **AccessABILITY 101: Delivering Top-Notch Services and Supports to Patrons with Disabilities**. For details, please refer to the training section earlier in this issue of **Signal**.

12. MINISTRY OF CULTURE UPDATES

2006 Public Library Support Survey for Students – Deadline is August 2, 2006

On July 7, 2006, the Ministry released a special survey to libraries on support for student achievement. It looks at a range of topics from reading readiness programs for toddlers and preschoolers, to literacy programs, and homework help for children and young adults. Each library was given a letter with the library's recorded name and a unique password. A link to the survey is provided from the main SOLS page at www.sols.org but you would still need the unique password to access the survey. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Gartyl Wagner at (416) 314-7629 or e-mail gartyl.wagner@mcl.gov.on.ca. The survey deadline is **Wednesday, August 2, 2006**.

Please note that information about the Ministry's **LSDF** program is posted earlier in this issue of **Signal** under "Funding Opportunities". Further information about the Ministry's **Annual Survey of Public Libraries** was also posted earlier in this issue of **Signal**.

13. SOLS CEO LISTSERV

SOLS maintains a list of all the e-mail addresses for SOLS CEOs. It is this list that is used to distribute **Signal**. Several times through the month, you may also receive other messages from SOLS. This month, the following messages were sent:

- On June 29th, Barbara Franchetto forwarded an e-mail from Lorraine LeBlanc from OLS-North. In this message, it was announced that OLS-North is now administering all **new** pools for the whole of Ontario. In the past few months, OLS-North has been working with a 'Pools Committee' with northern & southern library staff. This committee has developed general terms of reference which can be found at <http://www.olsn.ca/joint-purchasing-pools.php>. Suggestions for new pools include books clubs, Children's Read Along Books, Young Adult Fiction, Audio Books on CD, Mysteries, Romance, Westerns, CD ROM (kids games, educational) and literacy materials. Libraries were asked to send an email to Dana Seabrook at dseabrook@olsn.ca, if interested in any of the above mentioned pools, or if you have any other suggestions by July 7, 2006. This e-mail was intended to be a means of gathering information, rather than a commitment. Any new pool must have a minimum of 10 libraries before we are able to proceed. Please note that the list of suggested pools also included DVD and large print pools. These two pools already exist among libraries in southern Ontario, and, since these procedures are for **new** pools, the existing pools would be unaffected by these changes.
- On July 10th, Sue Walls sent an e-mail which thanked everyone who submitted "catch phrase(s)" for the SOLS vans but then also asked people to vote for their favourite phrase from three given. The three phrases were: 'Can't find what you want? Ask for INFO @ your library®'; 'If it isn't there we can get it, Ask for INFO @ your library®'; and 'Need INFO? We'll deliver @ your library®'. The deadline for voting was Tuesday, July 18th.

If you did not receive these messages, and would like further information, please contact the SOLS HelpDesk at 1-800-387-5765, ext. 4, or by e-mail to helpdesk@sols.org

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All issues of SIGNAL can be viewed online at <http://www.sols.org/publications/signal/index.htm> . However, if anyone would like to receive the e-mail version of this newsletter, please send a message to signal@sols.org . You can reach the editor of SIGNAL at: signal@sols.org or by telephone at 1-866-380-9767.

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